

Magda Drozd

**music, sound, sound design
for
movies, videos, theater, art, radio**

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Magda Drozd is a composer, musician, and artist working in the field of electronic pop, ambient, and experimental music and sound. She uses field recordings, digital and analog instruments like a synthesizer, guitar, violin, and her voice to create unique soundscapes and songs that open up imaginative and speculative atmospheres and works underneath the rational. Her LPs «Songs for Plants» and «18 Floors», both released on the swiss label Präsens Editionen, were acclaimed internationally by experts and fans. Magda worked together with artists, film- and theater-makers to create sound and music for their audiovisual productions and art pieces. As an artist, she creates sound installations that were shown mostly in Switzerland. She lives and works between Zürich (Switzerland) and Torino (Italy).

magdadrozd.com

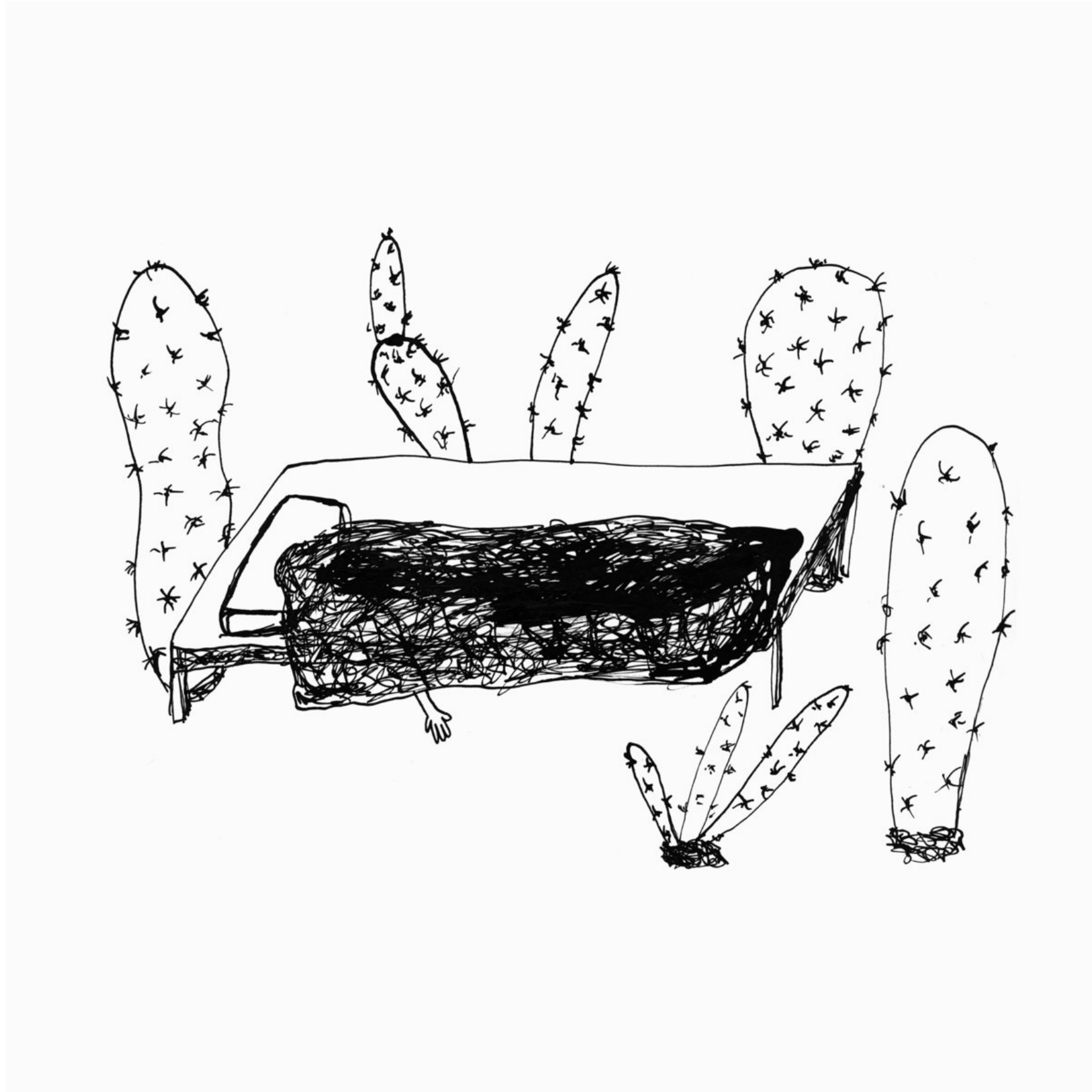
https://www.instagram.com/magda_drozd_/
<https://soundcloud.com/magda-drozd>

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Songs for Plants (LP)

Released on Präsens Editionen, 2019



Listen

[Spotify](#)

[Soundcloud](#)

[Bandcamp](#)

The title of Magda Drozd's debut album, *Songs for Plants*, goes beyond the invocation of an unusual implied audience and indicates her desire to challenge conventional listening experiences. Plants have been central to the writing-process of the eleven-song LP by the musician, artist, performer, and curator. Drozd's sound palette includes synthesizers, field recordings, a violin, guitar, her own voice, and recordings of cacti, the latter of which were made using the latest recording technology that allowed Drozd to render audible the sound of the prickly pear for example. All this leaves Drozd with a highly poetic album located somewhere between experimental electronics, ambient, off-pop, and dub techno. Tender and abrasive at times, she manages to combine the melancholic, critical, hopeful, and distanced—as if Grouper, Jan Jelinek, The Space Lady, and Hierglyphic Being got together to re-record Alec Empire's *Low on Ice*.

Songs for Plants is released on vinyl in a limited run of 200 (including download codes on cards signed by the artist) as well as digitally. The album was mastered by Stefan Betke and was written with the help of Nicola Genovese (text) and Samuel Savenberg and Roman Drozd (additional mixing). The artwork is based on a drawing by Drozd and was designed by Kaj Lehmann.

18 Floors (LP)

Released on Präsens Editionen, 2021



Listen

[Spotify](#)

[Soundcloud](#)

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In her artistic practice, Magda Drozd is deeply concerned with listening. The artist and musician not only investigates the ways her audience listens but also continually hones her own auditory sensibility. For her second album, 18 Floors, Drozd trained the latter on the Lochergut, an iconic residential estate in Zurich's Kreis 4, which she called home for several years. Over the past two years, she compiled a corpus of field recordings in and of the apartment building, which became the basis for an examination of how sound produces knowledge. The result challenges current assumptions about buildings, urban living, and the ecologies of cohabitation. In the context of her project, Drozd conceives the building as a living organism rather than a collection of static material. The music moves between sound art, ambient, and experimental electronics, occasionally showing flashes of pop, indie rock, and R&B.

Swiss artist Magda Drozd follows 2019's acclaimed „Songs For Plants“ with a dedication to the apartment building she called home for several years. Blending skeletal pop elements with field recordings and subtle ambience, she makes an avant garde statement about the home and its sacred space. Built from field recordings Drozd made in her building, she expands them into spine-tingling ambient drones, or layered vocals, pads or drum machine rhythms. ‚Over Exposure‘ sounds like a nauseous alternative „Drive“ soundtrack with synths echoing around deep, reverberating clangs and ghostly pads. ‚Pink Chimney‘ meanwhile is a subtle pop charmer, with hints of Jenny Hval's surrealist lyricism. As the album dips into its second half, the environmental recordings - gurgling pipes, scraping machines, buzzing light fixtures - are pushed to center stage, enhancing the general feeling of anxiety. At times, it feels like an unusually fitting soundtrack to the harrowing, realist work of Polish filmmaker Krzysztof Kieślowski. If that doesn't pique your interest, go watch „Dekalog“ immediately.
Review on boomkat.com

Over Time

Composition for a 3-channel video installation, 2021



For the video installation of Laura Pugno I made a stereo composition of 15 minutes that includes material and sounds like site specific field recordings, digital and analog instruments (synthesiser, violin, guitar), voice and sound effects.

Over Time is a three-channel video installation by Italian artist Laura Pugno that investigates the relationship between human beings and the natural environment through a multifocal look at the theme of snow. The work is the result of the homonymous project, curated by Andrea Lerda, winner of the 9th edition of the Italian Council (2020), the program for the international promotion of Italian art of the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity of the Ministry of Culture and will become part of the permanent collection of the MUSE - Museum of Sciences.

Created thanks to the support of the
Italian Council program (9th edition, 2020)

Carried out in collaboration with
MUSE – Science Museum, Trento
DISAFA, Department of Agricultural, Forestry
and Food Sciences of the Università degli Studi di Torino
Fondazione Zegna, Trivero Valdilana
Cittadellarte Fondazione Pistoletto, Biella
AGIVERONA Cultural Association, Verona
Fondazione per l'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea CRT, Torino
Musée Gassendi / CAIRN Centre d'Art, Digne-les-Bains (France)
A Tale of a Tub, Rotterdam (Netherlands)
SÜDPOL, Lucerne (Switzerland)
Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva (Switzerland)

With the support of
Pro Helvetia Swiss art council
Volcke Aerosol Connection

Watch

<https://vimeo.com/572130974>

Password: LPsalati21

<https://laurapugno.info/Over-Time>

Tracks

Composition for the installation «Fading Loss» , 2021



For Laura Pugno's installation «Fading Loss» I made a composition that is part of her exhibition. I worked exclusively with the material the artist proposed (wood) and created a sound piece that follows the engravings of the European spruce bark beetle that eats the outside of a tree. Laura Pugno traced these markings with graphite — an action that also creates, and welcomes, change. The sounds created are a translation of an action that undermines the forest, while also changing the face of it.

The work was exhibited May - October 2021 at Fondazione Zegna (Trivero, Italy).

More information [here](#)

Listen

soundcloud.com/magda-drozd/tracks-fadingloss

Like Human

Composition and music for a short movie, 2021



In the first part of her video «Like Human» Maja Renn used my song «Painkiller» from my LP «Songs for Plants». For the second part I made new composition.

Like Human, 2021

short film, 5'25"

After Last Chance to See by Douglas Adams

Direction: Maja Renn

Performance: Alicia Aumüller & Maja Renn

Music: Magda Drozd

Dramaturgy: Bendix Fesefeldt

Production: Aaron Fuchs

Produced by Schauspielhaus Zürich

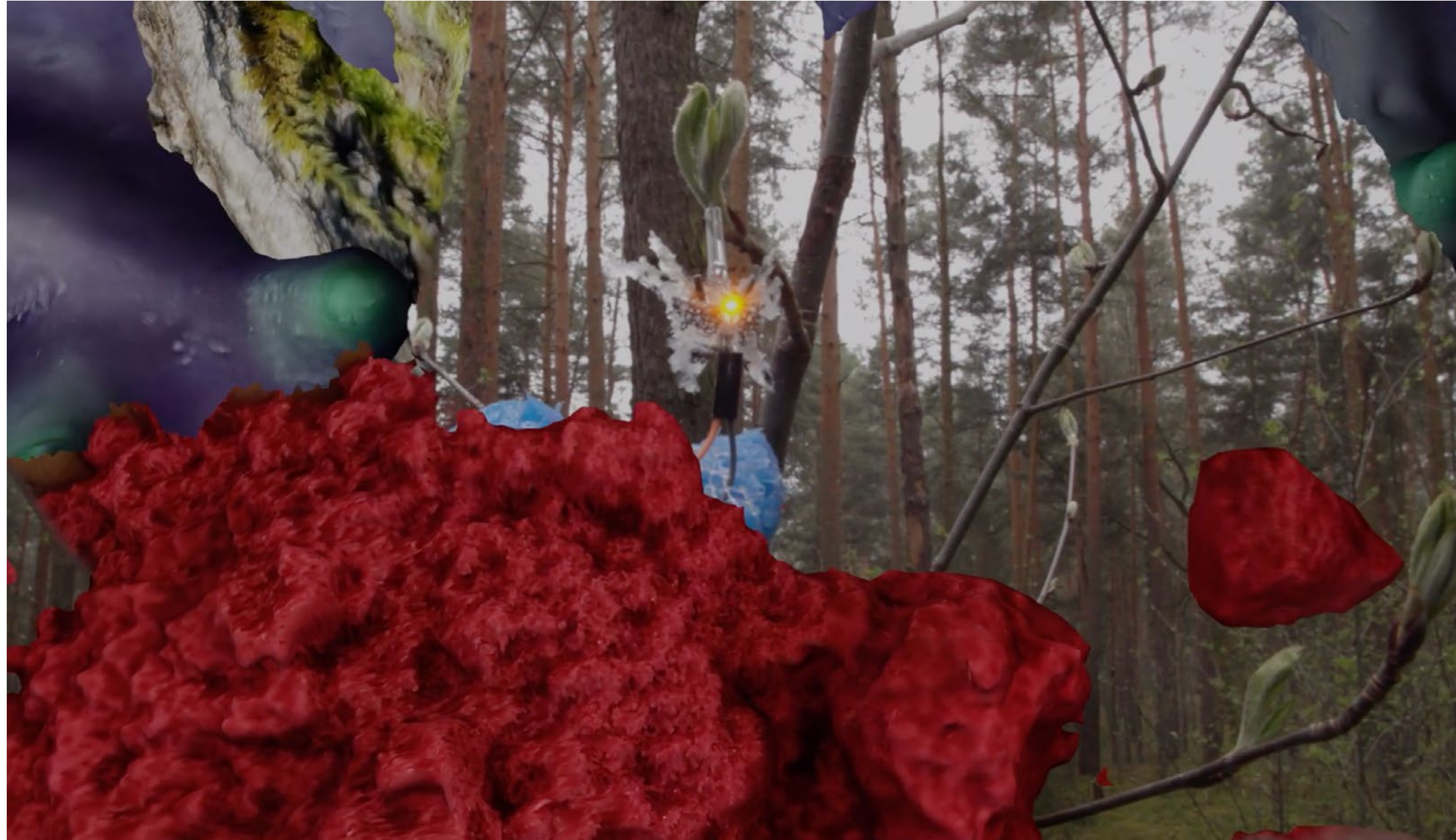
More information [here](#)

Watch

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWk_4RQ0fcY

Fragmented Delicacies

Music for a short movie, 2021



Berlin based artist Elio J Carranza used four songs from my LPs for her post-porn short movie «Fragmented Delicacies».

Watch

<https://vimeo.com/576887135>

password: fragmenteddelicacies

Side Walk Duel

Composition and music for a video essay, 2020



Composition for Nicola Genoveses video essay «Side Walk Duel» that was shown in Helmhaus Zürich online program during Covid-19 lockdown in May 2020.

Watch

https://www.instagram.com/tv/B_ctEgbFXAa/

Foreign Correspondent: EP02

Assisting sound design and sound editing, 2020



Foreign Correspondent is an experimental new docu-travel series where topics are generated by random human interaction and intuition. For Episode 02: Vietnam I worked with director Rory Pfothenhauer on the sound design and the sound editing.

Release date 26th April 2020

Watch

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iToljQEe1tE>

Keep in Touch

Live-Sound for a dance performance, 2021



Composed of poetic acts that touch and are touched by one another, Keep in Touch brings into contact story-telling, play, image-making, live sound and dance. Three performers in accidentally assigned roles generate various constellations of closeness and distance. They reach out, draw and erase boundaries.

Direction and Stage: Maja Renn

With: Songhay Toldon, Ondrej Vidlar, Maja Renn

Live Sound: Magda Drozd

Costumes: Ulf Brauner

Production Assistance: Andrina Imboden

Dramaturgy: Savannah Theis

Stage Assistance: Ann-Kathrin Bernstetter

Proofreading: Selina Widmer

Premiere: 18th of June 2021

Schauspielhaus Zürich, Pfauen-Kammer

Divas

Live-Sound for dance performances, 2017-2018



Listen

<https://soundcloud.com/houseofdivas/forget-it-before-you-wake-up>

DIVAS is a performance and dance collective based on a mutual interest in practice and knowledge connected to queer life, magic, healing, love, witchcraft, feminism, gay culture, pop music and more. They create events/performances based on finding forms of dialogue with an audience and multimedia material including movement, sound, video, objects.

Shows at Tanzhaus Zürich, message salon embassy and Wunderkammer



Sound installations / exhibitions / sound performances

Preludes for the post-normal, Oto Sound Museum, 2021

Grüntöne Festival, Schauspielhaus Zürich, 2021

Hidden Dark, Shedhalle Zürich, 2019

7 Short Pieces, Lokal 14, 2018

Excavation, Lokal 14, 2018

Vibrations in Time, Helmhaus, 2017

Invisible Voices, Helmhaus, 2017/18

Intra-Action/Traces, ZhdK, 2017

DNA, Zoological Museum Zürich, 2017

More information

<https://www.magdadrozd.com/>

